

Leah Solivan—General Partner Fuel Capital & Founder TaskRabbit—Technology Pioneer Award;

Stephanie Newby—Founder Golden Seeds, the premiere early-stage investment firm for women-led companies & Former CEO Crimson Hexagon—Financial Pioneer Award;

Patty Baker—Philanthropist, Broadway Producer, Founder Baker Scholars, Board Member Hunter College Foundation (Baker Theater Building), New York Public Theater, Naples Players, Baker Art Museum & Milwaukee Repertory Theater—Philanthropy Pioneer Award;

Norma Kamali—International Fashion Designer, Founder/CEO Normalife, Founder/CEO Wellness CAFE & STOP OBJECTIFICATION CAMPAIGN—Fashion Pioneer Award;

Hannah Stocking—Global Entertainer with 25+ Million Followers—Influencer Pioneer Award;

Missy Elliott—Grammy Award-Winning Musical Artist—Music Pioneer Award;

Francine LeFrak—Founder/Visionary Same Sky, Chair Harvard Kennedy School Women's Leadership Board & Founder LeFrak Productions—Accessory Pioneer Award; and

Wendy Diamond—Social Entrepreneur, Impact Investor, Humanitarian, Animal Advocate, Best-Selling Author and CEO/Founder of Women's Entrepreneurship Day Organization—Humanitarian Pioneer Award.

Madam Speaker, I urge the entire House to recognize these remarkable role models, and to celebrate Women's Entrepreneurship Day this year and every year moving forward.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE BREASTFEEDING MOTHERS JURY DUTY EXCLUSION ACT OF 2019

#### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2019*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Breastfeeding Mothers Jury Duty Exclusion Act of 2019. My bill would allow breastfeeding mothers summoned for jury service in federal court or in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia to be excused from service for the period they are breastfeeding an infant. This would be optional for the mothers. Breastfeeding mothers would be allowed to serve if they do not wish to take the exemption. The benefits of breastfeeding

are well-documented, and breastfeeding mothers should not be deterred from breastfeeding because of a jury summons.

Under the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997 (Pub. L. 105–33), Congress took responsibility for paying for the D.C. courts and other state-like functions previously provided by D.C. The D.C. courts, however, have always been under the control of Congress, even when they were funded by the District. The Home Rule Act prohibits the District government from enacting any law relating to Title 11 of the D.C. Code. Title 11 establishes the exemptions from jury. Therefore, this bill is necessary to provide this exclusion for both the federal and D.C. courts.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

#### BARSTOW CITY COUNCILMEMBER RICHARD HARPOLE RETIRES

#### HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2019*

Mr. COOK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Barstow City Councilmember Richard Harpole, who departed the dais on November 18, 2019.

Richard Harpole was born on October 8, 1958 in Illinois. He came to Barstow by way of the United States Army, where he served at nearby Fort Irwin as a military police investigator. While stationed at Fort Irwin, he met his wife Donna, and married her in 1984. After his marriage, he was honorably discharged from the Army and joined the Barstow Police Department. During his time with the Barstow Police Department, Richard focused heavily on combatting gangs and drug trafficking, and is still a lifetime member of the California Narcotic Officers Association. He retired from the Barstow Police Department in 2008 as a lieutenant.

After his retirement, Councilmember Harpole stayed involved in his community. He served on the board of the Barstow Area Chamber of Commerce, the Boys & Girls Club of Barstow, Mojave Valley Volunteer Hospice, and the Barstow Humane Society. Councilmember Harpole was elected to the Barstow City Council in 2012 and won reelection in 2016.

Councilmember Richard Harpole has a history of serving his community throughout his

life, from his service in the United States Army and Barstow Police Department to his civic engagement across numerous boards of directors and culminating in his service as a Barstow City Councilmember. I congratulate him on a very well-deserved retirement and will miss his presence in the City of Barstow.

#### HONORING IRENE BLESSING

#### HON. LARRY BUCSHON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 19, 2019*

Mr. BUCSHON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Irene Blessing, who will be celebrating her 100th birthday on November 23, 2019. Irene is the oldest living female veteran in Vanderburgh County, having served as an Army nurse in World War II.

Born the daughter of a World War I Navy veteran, Irene felt the call to serve her country after the United States was drawn into World War II. After enlisting on May 26, 1943, she made her way to the 228th Army Hospital in Sherborne, England. Her most trying moments in the hospital came in the wake of D-Day. After being woken up by the deafening noise of airplane engines overhead, Irene and the rest of the hospital staff began receiving patients two days later. The incoming flow of patients was so steady that the hospital hardly had time to do the laundry. Despite the stressful circumstances, Irene served with distinction and honor, providing quality care for wounded Allied soldiers. She and her fellow nurses also graciously treated wounded German prisoners-of-war. When asked retrospectively about the hospital's treatment of German soldiers, she said, "They were people, and we had to do it." After two years of service, Irene was honorably discharged.

Irene's dedicated service has inspired Hoosiers and fellow Midwesterners throughout her life, especially her own family. Her two sons, Arthur and Paul Midle, followed her footsteps into the armed forces, serving in the Marine Corps and the Air Force respectively.

Madam Speaker, it gives me great pleasure today to recognize Irene on her great milestone. On behalf of Indiana's 8th District, I wish her well and I thank her for her service to our country.